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The Law Letter

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June 2004

# Summer 2004 Law Letter

Georgia State University College of Law

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# LAW LETTER

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

SUMMER 2004

## Two New Law Centers Receive Approval

As part of a year-long strategic planning process, which focused on new initiatives at the College of Law, several faculty members developed formal proposals that led to the creation of two new law centers. On April 7, 2004, the university approved the establishment of the Center for Law, Health & Society and the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth at the College of Law.

The Center for Law, Health & Society initiated by Professor Charity Scott seeks to provide national leadership in the integration of law and ethics into health policy, health research and the provision of health services. The center will promote interdisciplinary collaboration among faculty, scholars, students, professionals and practitioners from multidisciplinary backgrounds through research, education and community service.

Further, the Center for Law, Health & Society



*Professor Colin Crawford and Professor Charity Scott*

provides an interdisciplinary forum for addressing contemporary issues involving health justice, the provision of health care, health care enterprises, and the health and welfare of individuals, families, and communities. The center is the first such health-related law school center in Georgia.

The Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, led by Professor Colin Crawford, will become a venue for research, teaching and academic exchange on a range of

issues relating to metropolitan growth. The center will produce comparative research focusing on the legal, regulatory, policy, planning, financial, social and political challenges facing Atlanta and other cities as they confront the host of issues that urban and regional growth impose on the environment.

The center will draw attention to Georgia State University's current and ongoing scholarship in matters related to growth and also expand the university's profile as an urban research institution

in the Atlanta region and throughout Georgia. The center's first programs include a university-wide "Urban Fellows" program, in which top graduate students from law and other colleges will meet with prominent law and policymakers to discuss issues related to metropolitan growth and

*Continued on Page 3*

### IN THIS ISSUE

**New Chair for BOV**

[page 3](#)

**Alumni Profile**

[page 4](#)

**Annual Fund Update**

[page 5](#)

**Intellectual Property Initiative**

[page 6](#)

**BLSA Brunch**

[page 7](#)

**Student News**

[page 11](#)

# Dean's Message

The College of Law enjoys an outstanding reputation in our region for its high-quality legal education. Faculty members take teaching seriously. As a result, our graduates enter the legal profession well prepared to tackle its challenges. The college now finds itself well positioned to move to its next phase of development: recognition as one of the nation's leading publicly assisted law schools.

The law school's continuing rise to national prominence will be determined by its ability to become a national leader in some specialized areas of legal study. In the last few years, the faculty has approved more specialized curricular offerings in growth management and land use law, health law, and intellectual property law. The university's recent approval of two centers at the law school further accelerates the college's ability to distinguish itself.

The newly created Center for the Comparative Study of Growth Management envisions Georgia State as a major global resource for interdisciplinary research related to the law and regulation of metropolitan growth and its environmental impact. It will serve as a forum for research and advanced study related to the legal and institutional arrangements that shape the built and physical environments.

By performing comparative studies of modern metropolitan areas, the Comparative Growth Management Center will identify and articulate solutions to the impact of metropolitan growth upon the environment. Using the Atlanta region as a laboratory for study, the center will develop an international model for the study of problems associated with rapid urban growth and metropolitan sprawl. The center's international dimension will be enhanced by visiting foreign scholars who will give mini-courses on substantive areas covered by the center.

The Center for Law, Health and Society was created to address contemporary issues arising in areas where law, ethics and health intersect. Recognizing the pivotal role that law and ethical considerations play in the development of social policies, the center will focus on the ways in which law and ethics impact upon the health of individuals, families, and communities. Through interdisciplinary collaboration among faculty, students, professionals, and practitioners from multi-disciplinary backgrounds, the center will provide a forum for research, education, and community service. Taking advantage of the law school's existing linkages with Georgia's state government and General Assembly, the center will spearhead collaboration with community partners on health legislation and advocacy.

Both centers harness existing faculty expertise and interest. They provide wonderful opportunities for interdisciplinary research and community outreach in areas of great importance to the state and the region. I fully expect that the law school will become preeminent in growth management law and health care law as a result of the activities these centers will generate.

*Janice C. Griffith*



The *Law Letter* is published by the Office of Development and Alumni Relations three times a year for graduates, students, faculty, staff and friends of the College of Law. Please send address changes, graduate news, comments and requests to:

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Faculty, 404/651-2096

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Reference Desk, 404/651-4143

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404/651-2044  
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Nancy Johnson, Law Librarian, 404/651-4140

## Board of Visitors

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Mary Margaret Oliver, *Attorney at Law*  
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Elizabeth V. Tanis, *Sutherland Asbill & Brennan*  
Patricia Tate, *McKenna Long & Aldridge*  
Judge Peggy H. Walker, *Juvenile Court, Douglas County*  
Hugh Welborn, *Attorney at Law*  
Gene Mac Winburn, *Winburn Lewis & Barrow*  
Dom Wyant, *Jones Day*

# New Chair for the Board of Visitors

**J**ohn T. Marshall, partner at Powell Goldstein Frazer & Murphy, LLP and current member of the college's Board of Visitors assumed leadership of the board, effective February 3, 2004, from Dom Wyant of Jones Day, who has served as the founding chair for 10 years. Marshall is a long-standing friend of Georgia State and a devoted supporter of the college.

Marshall is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the American Bar Foundation and the Georgia Bar Foundation. He is the Chair of the State Bar of Georgia's Committee on Standards of the Profession and a Master of the Bleckley and Lumpkin Inns of Court. Marshall has received many

awards including the American Bar Association's Harrison Tweed Award for teaching trial evidence, the State Bar of Georgia's Tradition of Excellence Award for his service to the bar and the community, the State Bar of Georgia's A. Gus Cleveland Award for service to continuing legal education and the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyer Foundation's Phil Heiner Award for legal service to indigents. Recently, he was honored in the *Chambers USA Guide* as one of America's leading business lawyers.

Born in Cordele, Georgia, Marshall received his J.D. from Yale University. His practice concentrates in litigation.



Members of the board gathered to celebrate the service of Dom Wyant on May 4.

**First row from left:** Morris Macey of Macey Wilensky Cohen Wittner & Kessler, LLP; Elizabeth Tanis of Sutherland Asbill & Brennan, LLP; Linda DiSantis '88 of the City of Atlanta; Dean Janice C. Griffith; Dom Wyant of Jones Day and founding chair of the board; Professor Marjorie L. Girth; Mary Margaret Oliver, Attorney at Law; Judge Dorothy Beasley; Stephanie Parker of Jones Day; Lee Burge, College of Law Founder.

**Second row from left:** Byron Attridge of King & Spalding LLP; Hugh Welborn '86, Attorney at Law; Joel Cowan of Cowan and Associates; Richard Jones of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta; Paula Lawton-Bevington of the Marcus Institute; George Manning of Jones Day; John Marshall of Powell Goldstein Frazer & Murphy, LLP and Paul Kilpatrick of Pope McGlamry Kilpatrick Morrison & Norwood, LLP.

# The Graduate Leadership Council seeks members

**T**he Graduate Leadership Council is currently seeking representatives from the following classes: 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996. The council acts as an advisory group for the college by assisting with the coordination of a wide range of activities. Each class is represented by two or more graduates who serve on the council for a two-year term. You may nominate someone to serve on the council or nominate yourself. Representatives are expected to attend four meetings each year, staff and enlist the support of classmates for the annual fund program and selected events, bring peer concerns to each meeting for discussion and help organize a class reunion. If you wish to serve, contact Delita Marsland at 404-651-2040 or [delita@gsu.edu](mailto:delita@gsu.edu).

## New Centers

*continued from Page 1*

subsequently, to undertake research raised by their collaboration. In addition, in the spring 2005, the center will offer a Foreign Enrichment Course on growth-related and environment-related legal issues, in which prominent scholars from abroad will come to the College of Law and teach Georgia State students about their legal systems' attempts to grapple with growth management.

"I am very proud of Professors Scott and Crawford and excited about the research and outreach activities that will be generated by both centers. I am confident that each center will further distinguish the college for its growing expertise and enhance the reputation of the university," said Dean Janice C. Griffith.



# Fellow Grads and Partners Keep Close Ties with the College

## Alumni Profiles: Mary M. Brockington and Anne W. Lewis

**M**ary M. “Peggy” Brockington and Anne W. Lewis are fellow law graduates and partners at Strickland Brockington Lewis, LLP. The firm was formed in 2001 with longtime friend and partner Frank Strickland, after the three of them practiced together for nearly a dozen years. The firm’s practice focuses primarily on education, employment, public utility regulation, legislative and government affairs, redistricting, voting rights and elections, general corporate counseling and litigation.

Peggy received her J.D. from Georgia State in 1986. She represents colleges, schools and universities in matters involving employment law, disability law, faculty misconduct, FERPA, the Clery Act, student discipline, tenure, regulatory compliance, accreditation, federal funding, governance and risk management. A former special education teacher, Peggy is a regular speaker on education-related topics and is vice-chair of the School and College Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia.

Anne received her J.D. in 1989 from Georgia State. She represents



*Peggy Brockington '86, Frank Strickland and Anne W. Lewis '89.*

the firm’s clients in various public policy and legislative matters, including voting rights cases, redistricting matters, election disputes and public utility issues. Along with Frank, Anne recently represented a group of 29 plaintiffs, both Democrat and Republican voters, who brought a constitutional challenge to the state House and Senate districts. The plaintiffs prevailed and a three-judge federal panel in the Northern District of Georgia redrew the state House and Senate plans to comport with the one person, one vote principle. In addition to redistricting work, Anne represents public officials and candidates in election challenges, election contests and before the State Ethics Commission. She also appears regularly before the Georgia Public Service Commission on behalf of the firm’s telecommunications and energy clients. Since 2002, Anne has served as chief deputy general counsel to the Georgia Republican Party.

Peggy and Anne believe a successful law firm is built upon a number of different strengths and

perspectives. Together with Frank, they have been able to capitalize on each of their individual strengths to create a firm they each love coming to every day.

When asked for advice for others seeking a successful private practice, Peggy and Anne responded, “Be passionate about being a lawyer. Don’t try to be an expert in everything. Instead choose something you love and work hard to do it well.”

In concert with their dedication to the firm, Peggy and Anne are loyal supporters and frequent participants at law school activities and special events. Both are members of the Graduate Leadership Council, a graduate advisory group, for which they act as spokespersons for their graduating class and attend student and alumni events to promote the development efforts of the law school.

*“Be passionate about being a lawyer. Don’t try to be an expert in everything. Instead choose something you love and work hard to do it well.”*

—Peggy Brockington and  
Anne W. Lewis

# 2004 Annual Fund Campaign

## 30 days left to make a difference

The college is now 21 years old and continues to receive national recognition for its academic programs and for the successful graduates it produces. In order to build on this tradition of excellence, the college seeks to increase the number of graduates who contribute financially to the law school. An annual gift to the college enables the dean and the faculty to build a stronger case for support from the Atlanta business and legal community. The financial support from our graduates and their participation in the college's annual fund program continues to grow. Each year, we seek to build our graduate participation to 20%, which is the national average for public law schools.

Please support the college and join so many of your fellow law graduates who are committed to increasing the reputation of the law school. As of May 24, 2004, 379 graduates or 13% have contributed to the college. We need 564 graduates to contribute at any level, small or large, to meet the goal of 20% before June 30, 2004.

A gift from you to the law school is a personal investment in your legal career. Every gift counts toward participation! With only 30 days left, we hope to hear from you soon!

### *Participate and Help Increase the Reputation of Your Degree*

To contribute today, simply return a check payable to the "Georgia State University Foundation/Law" in the envelope enclosed in the newsletter, visit [http://law.gsu.edu/alumni/ALUM\\_How2Give\\_Online.htm](http://law.gsu.edu/alumni/ALUM_How2Give_Online.htm), call 404-651-4360 or send an email to [lawdevelopment@gsu.edu](mailto:lawdevelopment@gsu.edu).

2004 Annual Fund Campaign July 1, 2003-May 24, 2004 Law Graduate Gifts by Class Year				
Year	# of graduates	# of donors	% of donors	total gifts
1984	7	2	29%	\$1,200
1985	55	10	18%	\$3,090
1986	126	17	13%	\$11,632
1987	136	13	10%	\$3,580
1988	159	21	13%	\$7,355
1989	98	14	14%	\$57,232.50
1990	131	10	8%	\$3,305
1991	165	17	10%	\$26,350
1992	157	20	13%	\$19,283
1993	150	25	17%	\$17,175
1994	173	24	12%	\$5,925
1995	167	20	12%	\$5,120
1996	145	16	11%	\$1,490
1997	199	28	14%	\$6,080
1998	188	30	16%	\$8,290
1999	193	19	10%	\$2,045
2000	179	29	16%	\$2,795
2001	133	23	17%	\$1,890
2002	168	26	15%	\$2,545
2003	160	15	9%	\$2,010
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,889</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>\$188,392.50</b>

# Graduates Lead Intellectual Property Initiative

An intellectual property (IP) task force was formed approximately one year ago with the mission to develop an executable strategic plan to build the law school's IP program. The goal is to have Georgia State University become recognized as providing one of the top Intellectual Property Law programs in the United States. The College of Law has a significant number of nationally recognized IP graduates. More than 10% of the members of the Georgia Bar's IP Section graduated from Georgia State and our law graduates have served as chairs of the IP Section for five years.

During the last year, Professor Michael Landau received approval

for two new IP courses and the Career Services Office task force members held the first ever "Practicing IP Law Series" presented by Georgia State IP graduates to current law students. A Georgia State University IP law alumni function is planned for the fall and plans are underway to add a website, mentoring program, externship program, seminars, moot court competitions and more.

On March 24, 2004, the initiative was officially kicked off and the IP Advisory Board was formed. The board members are: Scott M. Frank, board chair and president of the BellSouth Intellectual Property Management and Marketing Corporations;

Professor Mark Budnitz; Deborah Butler, vice president of the Intellectual Property Law Society; Alleen Deutsch, development director; Creighton K. Frommer, president of the Intellectual Property Law Society; Dean Janice C. Griffith; Douglas M. Isenberg of counsel, Needle & Rosenberg, P.C.; Associate Dean Steven Kaminshine; Jeffrey R. Kuester, partner at Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer & Risley, LLP; Professor Michael B. Landau; W. Scott Petty, partner at King & Spalding LLP; Clifford S. Stanford, senior counsel of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and Russell S. Timm, vice president of the Intellectual Property Law Society.

The board is forming committees to assist on all aspects of this initiative. If you have an interest in one or more of the activities mentioned above or something else, please contact Scott Frank at [scott.frank@bellsouth.com](mailto:scott.frank@bellsouth.com).

An initiative like this also requires an investment of new resources. Accordingly, the Georgia State IP Law Fund has been established to house private donations designated exclusively for this initiative. To facilitate the growth of the fund, an IP founders program has been established. There is a "Gold Level" for those who donate at least \$5,000 over five years and a "Platinum Level" for those who donate at least \$10,000 over five years. Donors will be recognized on a plaque in the lobby of the law school, listed in the fall *Law Letter*, invited to the annual fall Dean's Club reception and receive other benefits including always being known as a "Georgia State IP Law Founder." For more information contact Alleen Deutsch at 404/651-2142 or [adeutsch@gsu.edu](mailto:adeutsch@gsu.edu).

## Grads Named as Super Lawyers

The March 2004 edition of Super Lawyers Magazine recognized 13 top attorneys in Georgia who are all Georgia State University law graduates. The college is pleased to salute the law graduates who received recognition:

Name	Class	Firm	Practice Area
Randall L. Allen	1986	Alston & Bird, LLP	Antitrust Litigation
David N. Dorough Jr.	1986	Dorough & Dorough, LLC	Real Estate
Larry Craig Dowdy	1988	McKenna Long & Aldridge, LLP	Environmental/Land Use
Ronald J. Freeman	1986	Johnson & Freeman, LLC	Business Litigation
Craig G. Harley	1986	Chitwood & Harley, LLC	Securities Litigation
Linley Jones	1992	Jones & Bell, LLP	Plaintiff Personal Injury
Christine Koehler	1995	Koehler & Riddick, LLC	Criminal Defense
Aasia Mustakeem	1987	Powell Goldstein Frazer & Murphy, LLP	Real Estate
Lesley A. Oakes	1986	King & Spalding, LLP	Environmental/Land Use
William Scott Petty	1990	King & Spalding, LLP	Intellectual Property
Linda Ann Schreter	1991	Jackson Lewis, LLP	Employment Litigation
Gwendolyn Dahl Spratt	1990	Needle & Rosenberg, PC	Intellectual Property
C. R. Wright	1993	Fisher & Phillips, LLP	Employment Litigation

In addition to the 13 law graduates listed above, Professor Mary Radford was recognized as one of the top 50 female lawyers in Georgia for her expertise in estate planning and trusts. Four current members of our Board of Visitors, Miles J. Alexander, Sharon A. Gay, Elizabeth Tanis and our new board chair, John Marshall, were also recognized.

## Black Law Students Association Brunch

On Saturday, April 3, 2004, the Georgia State University chapter of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) hosted a brunch for approximately 40 guests in honor of former members. The brunch featured speeches by Linda Chastang, the first black law professor and the first BLSA advisor for the college and A.J. Cooper, founder of the national organization of Black American Law Students Association, later named BLSA. "The food was delicious, conversations were inspiring and the speeches were motivating," said Ikemesit A. Eyo, 2L and BLSA president.

that graduates present reach back and aid the students who may need guidance and mentoring upon entering into the legal field. Graduates then had the opportunity to informally provide advice to students present on how to conquer anxiety during the days after graduation and before finding employment.

A.J. Cooper provided a synopsis of why the organization was formed. He reminded everyone present of their responsibility to continue to fight for equality between whites and minorities and especially for those who can not



*From Left: Professor Charles Marvin, Dr. Cheryl Jackson, Admissions Director, Professor James Bross and Linda Chastang, former professor and first BLSA advisor gathered for a photograph during the brunch.*

Linda Chastang spoke about the college's early days and her admiration for Dean Emeritus Ben F. Johnson Jr. who played a major role in the founding of the law school. She recalled how determined Dean Johnson was to create an urban law school in Atlanta. She encouraged current students and graduates present to take advantage of the resources and relationships available to the law school with organizations such as the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys and the Gate City Bar Association in Atlanta. She requested

fight for themselves.

BLSA would like to thank the many graduates and members of the law faculty who attended the event and especially Dean Janice C. Griffith for her participation and her continued support of the Black Law Students Association.

## College of Law Ranks in Top 100

For the second year in a row, Georgia State University College of Law is the youngest law school to appear in the top 100 law schools published by the *U.S. News & World Report*. This year, the college ranked 89, up from 91 last year. Dean Griffith extends sincere appreciation to faculty, graduates, students and members of the community who have worked so hard to make the college an outstanding law school.

## Technology Update

Smart podiums were installed in each classroom last year. The user-friendly, central control systems are equipped with a podium that enables members of the faculty to connect to the Internet, save text onto white boards electronically, control and present Power Point presentations and play video tapes and DVDs all from one podium. It also provides professors with an E-Beam whiteboard system to record what is written on the whiteboard into the computer and then project what is written onto a projection screen. The next phase of technology enhancements will be in the courtroom this fall. The courtroom will be equipped with the same technology used in the federal courts system.

Visit the college's website at <http://law.gsu.edu> for more news and updates.



# CLASSACTIONS

## 1987

**Michael Barker** was appointed to the Magistrate Court of Chatham County as a judge on December 1, 2003. Judge Barker will stand for election on July 20.

**Sandra Michaels**, along with Irene Munn Jacobsen, were featured speakers during the Student Bar Association's Law Week Celebration on Thursday, April 1, 2004. Each discussed her organization's key actions in the 2004 legislative session.

## 1988

**Linda DiSantis** was the keynote speaker on Monday, March 29, 2004, to kick-off the Student Bar Association's Annual Law Week Celebration themed "Serving Our Community." She spoke about her position as city attorney of Atlanta.

**Mary L. Riddle** was recently promoted from an assistant legislative counsel to a deputy legislative counsel. As a deputy legislative counsel, she will assist legislators who desire to introduce new laws.

## 1989

**David V. Johnson** and his wife, Deana, are proud to announce the adoption of their son, Dylan Jack, who was born on March 22, 2003, in Toliatti, Russia.

## 1994

**Timothy M. Klob** was ordained as a Southern Baptist minister on January 25, 2004 in Grayson, Georgia. Timothy is an attorney at Speed & Seta, LLC.

**JoAnne Spotts** was promoted to deputy chief counsel for the Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the Department of Homeland Security. She also continues to serve as a special assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Maryland.

**Susan Plath Winston** and Michael Winston are the proud parents of a baby girl, Dorothy Plath Winston, born May 22,

2004, in Oklahoma City. Susan is currently serving as a law clerk for Judge Earl Bay Mitchell of the Oklahoma Court of Civil Appeals.

## 1995

**Monzer Mansour** relocated to Fayetteville, Arkansas. Monzer, who is bilingual, serves a growing Hispanic population in the area. He established a solo practice in the Fayetteville/Springdale area in 1998 and developed a client base that is over 90% Latino. He would like to say "thank you" to those GSU classmates who offered so much moral support.

**Thomas Thaxton Monk** recently left Kaufman and Associates and opened his own law firm, The Monk Law Firm. His office is located at 800-B Johnson Ferry Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30342.

## 1996

**Irene Munn Jacobsen**, along with Sandra Michaels, were featured speakers during the Student Bar Association's Law Week Celebration on Thursday, April 1, 2004. Each discussed her organization's key actions in the 2004 legislative session.

## 1997

**Kim S. Dammers** spoke on the importance of practicing public interest law during the Student Bar Association's annual Law Week Celebration on Tuesday, March 30, 2004. Kim left King & Spalding in 2002 to accept a position as assistant United States Attorney for the United States District Court of Northern Georgia.

## 1998

**Mary R. Hawk** joined the law firm of Porges Hamlin Knowles & Prouty, P.A. in Bradenton, Florida. She continues to practice in the areas of commercial litigation and appeals. She and her husband, Michael Polin, reside in Bradenton with their 2-year-old son, Erik.

## 2002

**Brett A. Schroyer** was featured

on the front page of the Wednesday, March 3, 2004, *Fulton County Daily Report* following his representation of the winning party before the Georgia Supreme Court in *Ward v. McFall*. The justices unanimously reversed a lower court ruling that found Georgia child support guidelines unconstitutional.

**Joe Segui** formed the Law Office of Joseph J. Segui, P.C. and employs the services of Brad Legare as of counsel. The firm operates several offices and is located in southeast Georgia near Brunswick.

## 2003

**Natalee Drummond**, an associate at Powell Goldstein Frazer & Murphy, is the host of a new radio legal talk show called "Court Radio." You can listen to the show, Monday through Saturday, from 6 to 8 p.m. on WAOK (1380 AM). If you are interested in sharing your legal expertise with the metro Atlanta community contact Natalee at [ndrummond@pgfm.com](mailto:ndrummond@pgfm.com).

**Gregory Todd Jones** is currently the Senior Research Fellow at the law school's Consortium on Negotiation & Conflict Resolution. He has published articles in the *Penn State Law Review* and co-authored with Doug Yarn articles in the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law's *Journal of Dispute Resolution and Judicature*, among others. He has also presented his research at many forums. As one of only eight legal studies scholars to participate, he presented at the prestigious Huber Hurst Research Seminar held at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. This summer, he will teach a seminar in law and statistics at Georgia State.

**Sherry Everett Jones** and Gregory Todd Jones ('03), who met in Professors Taylor's and Girth's first year contracts class, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Christopher Harding Jones, on May 1, 2004.

**Boris M. Ramsey** will be a regular guest attorney on WAOK's new show "Court Radio" with host Natalee Drummond.

## SPOTLIGHT



From left: Cathy Henson '89, University President Carl V. Patton and Leonard Jenkins Jr. '73, president of the Georgia State University Alumni Association.

Cathy Henson '89 received the Distinguished Alumni Service Award from the Georgia State University Alumni Association during the university's spring commencement ceremony on May 15, 2004.



# CLASSACTIONS

## Guess Who's Running for Office?

**James Altman, '85**  
Superior Court Judge,  
Clayton Circuit  
[www.altman4judge.com](http://www.altman4judge.com)

**Cynthia J. Becker, '87**  
Superior Court Judge, Stone  
Mountain Circuit, Division 6

**Michael Berlon, '93**  
Public Service Commissioner,  
Eastern District

**Dennis Blackmon, '94**  
Superior Court Judge,  
Coweta Circuit  
[www.dennisblackmon.com](http://www.dennisblackmon.com)

**Mary Lee Davis, '89**  
Senate District, District 43  
[meldelta1962@yahoo.com](mailto:meldelta1962@yahoo.com)

**L. Craig Dowdy, '88**  
Senate District, District 21  
[www.craigdowdy.com](http://www.craigdowdy.com)

**William G. Hamrick III, '92**  
Senate District, District 30  
[billhamrickiii@yahoo.com](mailto:billhamrickiii@yahoo.com)

**Joe W. Hendricks Jr., '95**  
District Attorney,  
Appalachian Circuit  
[jwhtkh@ellijay.com](mailto:jwhtkh@ellijay.com)

**Henry A. Hibbert, '89**  
Superior Court Judge, Stone  
Mountain Circuit, Division 6  
[www.henryhibbert.com](http://www.henryhibbert.com)

**Robert Mack, '93**  
Superior Court Judge,  
Coweta Circuit

**Jospeh K. Mulholland, '01**  
District Attorney,  
South Georgia Circuit  
[joekmullholland@yahoo.com](mailto:joekmullholland@yahoo.com)

**Randy Rich, '92**  
State Court Judge,  
Gwinnett County  
[www.randyrichforjudge.com](http://www.randyrichforjudge.com)

**Mason Rountree, '95**  
Senate District, District 31

**Curt B. Thompson II, '93**  
Senate District, District 5  
[www.becauseyourvoicecounts.com](http://www.becauseyourvoicecounts.com)

**Gwendolyn Fortson Waring, '92**  
Superior Court Judge,  
Eastern Circuit  
[www.gwendolynwaring.com](http://www.gwendolynwaring.com)

## New and Improved Law Alumni Directory

A new searchable alumni directory, projected to be available this fall, is currently under construction. The directory will be funded by the college and administered through the Georgia State University Alumni Association. The college seeks to encourage communication among law graduates for personal, professional and college-related purposes. The directory will be easy to use and include practice areas. Graduates can update their own information directly into the system. We want all graduates to participate and regularly update their information. Information in the directory will be password protected and can only be accessed by graduates, faculty, students and staff of Georgia State. Online registration will be required for all users. This service will be free for law graduates. More information about the directory will be available in the next issue of the *Law Letter*.

## Attention 1984, 1989, 1994 and 1999 law graduates!

The college has begun plans for your class reunion scheduled for this fall. Surveys were mailed to graduates last month. Please submit your ideas before June 21, 2004 via email to [lawdevelopment@gsu.edu](mailto:lawdevelopment@gsu.edu). We are currently seeking graduates to serve on the planning committee. If interested, contact Delita Marsland at 404-651-2040.

### ATTENTION LAW GRADUATES!

*Have you moved? Are you running for office?  
Have you obtained a new job, position or  
received an award or special recognition?  
Please help us update our records.  
Send your personal and professional news to  
[lawdevelopment@gsu.edu](mailto:lawdevelopment@gsu.edu).*

### GRADUATES NEEDED

The Admissions Office is seeking volunteers to help with the college's recruitment efforts. Call 404-651-4162 to find out how you can help.



# FACULTY BRIEFS

**Ronald Blasi** hosted Mr. Kiyoto Matsuyama, the deputy director of the Planning Division at the Japanese National Tax Agency, during Mr. Matsuyama's visit to the United States which was coordinated by the Georgia Council for International Visitors. Professor Blasi also made a presentation on significant tax issues at the American Bankers Association Community Bankers Council meeting in Savannah.

**Mark Budnitz** submitted a manuscript for the 2004 supplement to his book, *Consumer Banking and Payments Law*. His first 2004 supplement to *The Law of Lender Liability* was published. He submitted comments to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System regarding their proposed rule implementing the Check 21 Act and taught a seminar to credit unions on the issues they face complying with the Act. He also taught a seminar to state attorney generals across the country on preauthorized demand drafts and presented to fundraisers and staff of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society on the history of legal services under the Office of Economic Opportunity.

**Clark D. Cunningham** chaired the selection committee for the Inaugural Award for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching Professionalism, co-sponsored by the ABA Standing Committee on Professionalism and the Conference of Chief Justices. Selection of the award winners was the culminating event of the first W. Lee Burge Conference on professionalism, organized by Cunningham and held at Georgia State on January 30. He was the keynote speaker at the annual roundtable of the ABA Standing Committee on Specialization, March 26, in New Orleans. He chaired one program and spoke at another program, both on criminal justice, at the 2004 Meeting of the Law & Society Association on May 28 in Chicago. He also spoke on

"Confidentiality and Clients" at the ABA National Conference on Professional Responsibility on June 4 in Naples, Florida.

**Andi Curcio** accepted an invitation to serve on the board of the "Center for Justice and Democracy," an organization devoted to educating the public about the civil justice system and responding to attacks on the justice system under the guise of "tort reform."

**Anne Emanuel** was a member of a panel convened by the Atlanta Bar Association to respond to the solo performance of "Thurgood Marshall's Coming!" in April. This fall, she will serve as associate dean of the college, on the university's Areas of Focus Evaluation Team and on an ad hoc committee chaired by the Dean of Students, Rebecca Stout, which is working on revisions to the Student Code of Conduct.

**Marjorie Girth** was invited by the American Bankruptcy Institute to comment on Professor Elizabeth Warren's paper, "The New Economics of the American Family," at the ABI's national conference commemorating the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the 1978 Bankruptcy Code in Washington, D.C., last October.

**Janice Griffith** accepted an invitation to serve on the board of the Grant Park Conservancy, an organization devoted to the restoration, renovation, beautification and maintenance of historic Grant Park, Atlanta's oldest city park. In March, Dean Griffith served as a site team member in connection with the accreditation and site visit process at the University of Nebraska Lincoln College of Law conducted by the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools.

**Wendy F. Hensel** gave a presentation on April 21, 2004, to Georgia State's Center for Research on Atypical Development & Learning entitled, "The Thin Line Between Life and Non-Existence: Rethinking Wrongful Life."

**Nancy Johnson** completed her term as president of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries and attended its annual meeting on March 25-27 in Richmond, Virginia.

**Julian Juergensmeyer** co-authored an article "Market Based Approaches to Environmental Preservation: To Environmental Mitigation Fees and Beyond." The article was published in the University of New Mexico School of Law *Natural Resources Journal*.

**Marjorie Fine Knowles** lectured to students enrolled in the Environment of Business MBA Class at the Goizueta Business School at Emory University. Her subject was "Corporate Governance and the Role of Institutional Investors." She was also the keynote speaker along with Dr. Laylie Philips, of the Women's Studies Institute, at the 10th Anniversary celebration of the Georgia Women's Movement Project sponsored by the Georgia State University Library.

**Charles Marvin** taught a course in legal theory at the Riga Graduate School of Law in Latvia and a course in European Union Law at the Vytautas Magnus School of Law in Lithuania in May 2004.

**Paul Milich**, joined by Professor Roy Sobelson and John T. Marshall of Powell Goldstein, presented a day-long seminar for over 180 lawyers on Georgia Evidence. Professor Milich's 2004 edition of the *Courtroom Handbook on Georgia Evidence* is now available through Thomson/West publishing.

**Ellen S. Podgor** recently co-authored an essay, "Government Surveillance of Attorney-Client Communications: Invoked in the Name of Fighting Terrorism," 12 *Geo. J. of Legal Ethics* 145 (2003) (w/John Wesley Hall). She co-authored an op-ed piece "Trial Rules Will Stack Deck Against Detainees", *Atl. Jrl. Const.*, Wed., March 17, 2004, at A15. (w/Stephen Glassroth). In April, Professor Podgor spoke at the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers-Law & All That Jazz, her topic being "Ethics: Making Sure the Prosecutor's Notes are in Key."

**Mary F. Radford** testified before committees of the Georgia House of Representatives and the Georgia Senate about the State Bar of Georgia's proposed revision of Georgia's Guardianship Code. Professor Radford was the reporter for the Fiduciary Law Section committee that engaged in the five-year revision process. The bill was passed by both houses of the Georgia General Assembly and was signed by the Governor on May 5, 2004. Professor Radford has given presentations on the new law at the Atlanta Bar Association Estate Planning Section, the ICLE General Practice & Trial Section Institute and the Estate Planning & Probate Section of the Gwinnett County Bar Association.

**Charity Scott** was invited to be a peer reviewer at a Health Law Scholars Workshop at the Saint Louis University Law School, organized with the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics to support the work of younger scholars new to the health law field. She organized and moderated a program entitled "Disclosure of Medical Errors: Legal, Ethical, and Practical Perspectives" at the ABA Health Law Section's Fifth Annual Mid-Year Conference on Emerging Issues in Healthcare Law in February in San Diego. She gave a presentation entitled

# FACULTY BRIEFS

"Looking Back, Looking Forward: Health Care Ethics and Law" to the 10th Annual Conference of the Health Care Ethics Consortium of Georgia in April. Professor Scott received the university's Exceptional Service Award at the May commencement ceremony.

**Roy Sobelson** presented the history and creation of the law school's Burge Chair in Law & Ethics during the first W. Lee Burge Conference on professionalism in January. He participated in an ICLE program on evidence, closing arguments and ethics in the courtroom along with Professor Milich and John Marshall of Powell Goldstein Frazer & Murphy, LLP. Professor Sobelson gave a speech to

lawyers of Progressive Insurance on ethical obligations of insurance defense lawyers and another speech to campaign solicitors of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society on the history of the legal aid movement in America. He was the coach of the Paideia School Mock Trial Team and wrote an op-ed article in the *AJC* on the propriety of prosecutors sitting on public defender appointment panels.

**Corneill Stephens** was a guest speaker on a new radio legal talk show, WAOK (1380 AM), called "Court Radio" hosted by a law graduate, Natalee Drummond. He shared his legal expertise in contracts with radio listeners.

## SPOTLIGHT

Tanya Washington participated in a panel discussion, on April 29, 2004, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*. The topic of her discussion was "Emerging Strategies to Achieve the Dream of Brown."



*Professor Tanya Washington, joined by panelist Professor Pedro Noguera of New York University at the symposium celebrating the 50th Anniversary decision of Brown v. Board of Education.*

## Student News

■ Congratulations to Tamara Brooks and Samir Patel for placing fourth overall at the William E. McGee National Civil Rights Moot Court competition at the University of Minnesota Law School. Over spring break these three survived the cold to represent the College of Law to high acclaim. Petrina Hall was also recognized as the Best Oral Advocate of the preliminary rounds and the Best Oral Advocate Overall!

■ During the William B. Spong Moot Court Tournament at William and Mary College of Law in February, Linda Collett, Marianna Durham, Dee Sternlieb and Coach Jeremy Burnette were quarterfinalists.

Thank you to Professors Wiseman, Webber, Sobelson, Chiovaro, Hensel, Kinkopf and Landau for assisting during practice sessions.

■ At the Dean Jerome Prince Evidence Competition in Brooklyn, New York, Heather Froy, Erica Jansen, Leslie Spornberger-Jones and Coach Scott Marty were quarterfinalists.

■ Congratulations to Marianna B. Durham, 3L, who is the recipient of the National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Graduate Award and Rebecca A. Davis, 3L, who is the recipient of the Georgia Association for Women Lawyers Outstanding Graduate Award.

## P.I.L.A. Raises \$14,000 for Fellowships

The 12th Annual P.I.L.A. Fellowship Auction was held on Saturday, February 21, 2004, at Magnolia Hall in Piedmont Park. Supporters of the auction raised \$14,000 for student scholarships. Every year, proceeds from the auction are used to award fellowships to law students who work in public interest positions during the summer. Two full time students and four part-time students will receive fellowships. Many thanks to Genevieve McCarthy, Emily Ruisanchez and Professors Timmons, Podgor, Segall and Sobelson for making this year's auction a great success.

## Class of 2003 Enjoys Good Employment Stats

The College is pleased to report another great employment year for law graduates. The placement rate for 2003 graduates is 94%. The average starting salary is \$67,049. Seventy-one percent of our 2003 graduates are working in metro Atlanta. Congratulations and continued good luck to all 2003 graduates! Remember to contact the Career Services Office at (404) 651-2062 for more information when seeking employment assistance.





From left: Dean Janice Griffith, The Honorable Andrew Young and University Provost Ronald Henry prepare to take part in the 2004 Hooding Ceremony on May 14.

Visit the college's website  
at <http://law.gsu.edu>  
for more news  
and updates.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MOCK TRIAL: ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES— ARE THEY LEGALLY BINDING?

Thursday, June 17 • 4 p.m.

Urban Life Auditorium

A team of Lord, Bissell & Brook LLP lawyers, electronic signature solution provider DocuSign, Georgia State University J. Mack Robinson College of Business Department of Risk Management and Insurance and the College of Law will answer this question in the context of a "mock trial" demonstration. Learn how to overcome the challenge of proving an electronic signature. Attend in person or via the web. Contact Erin Corbin at [ecorbin@lordbissell.com](mailto:ecorbin@lordbissell.com). The registration fee is \$50.

### STATE BAR OF GEORGIA ANNUAL MEETING ALUMNI BREAKFAST

Saturday, June 19 • 8 a.m.

Portofino Bay Hotel  
Orlando, Florida

Register through the State Bar of Georgia at [www.gabar.org](http://www.gabar.org) or call 404-651-2040.

### GRADUATE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, September 9 • 6:30 p.m.

Location TBA

Call 404-651-2040 for more information.

### GEORGIA STATE LAW ALUMNI RECEPTION FOR COBB COUNTY GRADUATES

Wednesday, June 16 • 6 p.m.

McCracken's Irish Pub

Working or living in Cobb County? Join us at the reception. For more information or to RSVP call 404-421-0808.

### GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY JAMES OGLETHORPE LEGAL SOCIETY FIRST ANNUAL CLE WEEKEND

September 4-5

Savannah, Georgia

Please contact Jimmy Hurt '03 at [jhurt.sa@mindspring.com](mailto:jhurt.sa@mindspring.com) or Matthew Norton '04 at [mattewnorton77@yahoo.com](mailto:mattewnorton77@yahoo.com) for more information.

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